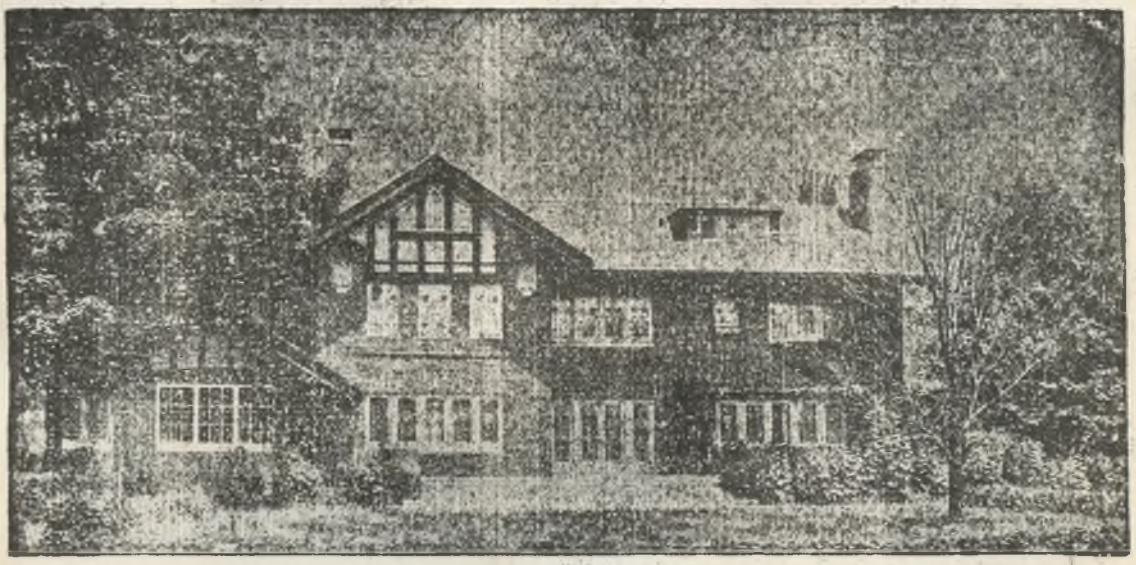
ALL ROADS LEAD TO GIBAULT HOME.

Tribune July 30 - 1933



ATTRACTIVE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF GIBAULT HOME.

History and Purpose of Gibault Home

In the fertile Wabash valley three miles to the south of Terre Haute stands the Gibault home for boys, named in honor of Father Pierre Gibault, a pioneer missionary of Indiana. Pierre Gibault was born at Montreal, Canada, April 7, 1737. He was ordained a priest at Quebec on March 17, 1768, and appointed vicar general by Archbishop Briand of Quebec for the Illinois country. He began his missionary labors among the French and Indians in the northwest territory Sept. 8, 1768, at Kaskaskia. In the spring of 1770 he went to Vincennes and with only slight interruptions remained there as pastor until Oct. 11, 1789. It was due in a great measure to the aid and influence of this good priest, although most historians fail to give credit to him, that Gen. George Rogers Clarke was able to capture Kaskaskia and Vincennes. Father Gibault died in New Madrid, Mo., in 1804 and his body rests in a lonely and unmarked grave.

Conceived by the Knights of Columbus of Indiana as a tribute to the memory of Father Gibault and a contribution of the Catholic people of Indiana to the richest of Indiana's farm land, the home was established on land upon which were already located buildings that lent themselves excellently for the purpose in mind. Through the generosity of the owners, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Smith, this tract was purchased at a figure far below its actual value. Few changes were necessary. For this reason, therefore, the home was speedily made ready for the pilgrimage which was to open the doors of the institution to Indiana's wayward Catholic boys.

On Sunday, July 31, 1921, 20,000 people from all parts of Indiana made a pilgrimage to the home on the occasion of its dedication in connection with which the Knights of Columbus of Indiana were favored with a visit from Supreme Knight Flaherty. The home had an initial capacity for 50 boys. Scarcely, however, had the doors opened when necessity demanded that a new dormitory be erected. Again the Indiana Knights were called upon for additional funds and the response was so generous that on Sunday, May 28, 1922, this new dormitory was dedicated. On May 29 the annual state convention of the Knights of Columbus was held in this new dormitory building, especially arranged for the occasion.

BAND CONCERT BY FIRST REGIMENT

An opportunity to hear a two and one-half hour concert from one of the large and best known bands throughout this part of Indiana will be afforded those who attend the fourth annual picnic at Gibault home Sunday.

It is the First Regiment band of this city under the personal direction of Herman Diekhoff.

Rather recently the number of members in the band has been increased until at the present time it numbers 40 pieces.

Director Diekhoff has continued to make numerous changes and improvements so that today it is a greater musical group than ever before in its entire history and its repertoire includes difficult overtures as well as stirring marches.